



HAY RIVER DISTRICT EDUCATION AUTHORITY

June 26, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Re: Student Transportation User Fee 2019-20

The Hay River District Education Authority (the "HRDEA") wishes to advise all Parents/Guardians that starting September 9, 2019, those students who utilize the Hay River Student Transportation system will now be required to purchase a student bus pass from their designated school.

The new user pay system is due to the fact that the Government of the Northwest Territories has not been providing us with the adequate funds necessary to meet the costs of busing our children, which leaves us with a substantial shortfall in funding year after year. The schools have been making up the shortfall by pulling money from both O&M and programming which can no longer be the case. The HRDEA understands this may be a hardship for families, however like most other jurisdictions in Canada; a user pay system is the only way that will allow us to continue busing students to/from school.

The cost of an annual bus pass is currently under review with rates expected to be between \$300 and \$375 per student.

An update on user fees and student criteria will be provided sometime during the first week of school in September. Fees will have to be paid in full by September 9, 2019 in order to ride the bus.

Have a safe and happy summer!

Sincerely,

Mark Harris
Chairperson